



Coalition of
MICHIGAN

Donate Life Coalition of Michigan

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GIVE SO OTHERS CAN LIVE

Dedicated to
increasing
awareness about
organ, tissue,
blood, bone marrow
and eye donation
in Michigan.

May 26, 2009

Representative Corriveau and members of the House Health Policy Committee:

This letter, written on behalf of the Donate Life Coalition of Michigan, is in support of Senate Bill 419. We request that this letter be included in the Committee members' notebooks for consideration.

PLATINUM

Gift of Life Michigan

Gift of Life MOTTEP

Michigan Eye-Bank

Roche Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

*St. John Hospital Transplant
Specialty Center*

*University of Michigan Health
System*

William Beaumont Hospital

GOLD

Harper University Hospital

Henry Ford Health System

*National Kidney Foundation of
Michigan*

Sparrow Health System

St. Mary's Health Care

SILVER

American Liver Foundation

American Red Cross

Astellas Pharma US, Inc.

Michigan Department of State

Michigan Donor Family Council

*Musculoskeletal Transplant
Foundation*

Novartis Pharmaceuticals

Wyeth Pharmaceuticals

The Donate Life Coalition of Michigan was formed in 1994 to promote the five points of life – organ, tissue, eye, blood and bone marrow donation. Our goal is to encourage Michigan residents to accept donation as a fundamental human responsibility. We seek to accomplish this primarily through public education.

We believe that Senate Bill 419, or "Jenna's Law", will be of great benefit to Michigan residents. With areas of our state chronically short of blood, particularly southeastern Michigan, our health system is increasingly dependent on sources beyond our state to supply blood for life-saving operations. For thousands of patients, a second chance at life depends on an organ or bone marrow transplant. However, just as important to the survival of these patients, is a safe and adequate blood supply. Blood transfusions sustain many patients as they wait to find a donor and are vital during the transplant operation. A patient receiving a liver transplant may require up to 20 units of red blood cells, 10 units of platelets and 20 units of plasma.

Thank you for supporting this bill which will permit, with parental permission, 16-year-olds to join the number of Michigan residents who give blood each year so others can live healthy and productive lives.

Sincerely,

Amy Olszewski

Government Liaison, Gift of Life Michigan

Chair, Donate Life Coalition of Michigan Public Policy Committee